

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
FINANCE
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:2484
ANSWERED ON:23.08.2013
HEALTH INSURANCE
Ananth Kumar Shri

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

- (a) whether large number of people in the country have no access or coverage under any health insurance;
- (b) if so, the details thereof along with the percentage of insurance coverage as on date, State/UT-wise;
- (c) whether the Government has any proposal to introduce State funded health insurance programme to provide health insurance to every citizen in the country;
- (d) if so, the details thereof; and
- (e) the steps taken/being taken by the Government to enhance health care insurance coverage in the country?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI NAMO NARAIN MEENA)

(a) to (e): Government launched the Rashtriya Swasthya Bima Yojana (RSBY) to provide smart card based cashless health insurance, including maternity benefit cover of Rs. 30,000/- per annum on family floater basis to BPL families (a unit of five) in the unorganized sector. The Scheme became operational from 01.04.2008. The Scheme is presently being implemented in 28 States/Union Territories and more than 3.56 Crore smart cards have been issued as on 31.07.2013. The Scheme has been extended to building and other construction workers {registered with Welfare Boards constituted under the Building and Other Constructions Workers' (Regulation of Employment and Conditions of Service) Act, 1996}, street vendors, beedi workers, domestic workers and all such MGNREGA beneficiaries who have worked for more than 15 days during preceding financial year. The Scheme has been further extended recently to sanitation workers, mine workers, rag pickers, rickshaw pullers and auto / taxi drivers.

The State-wise details about smart cards under RSBY as on 31.07.2013 is placed at Annexure 'A'.